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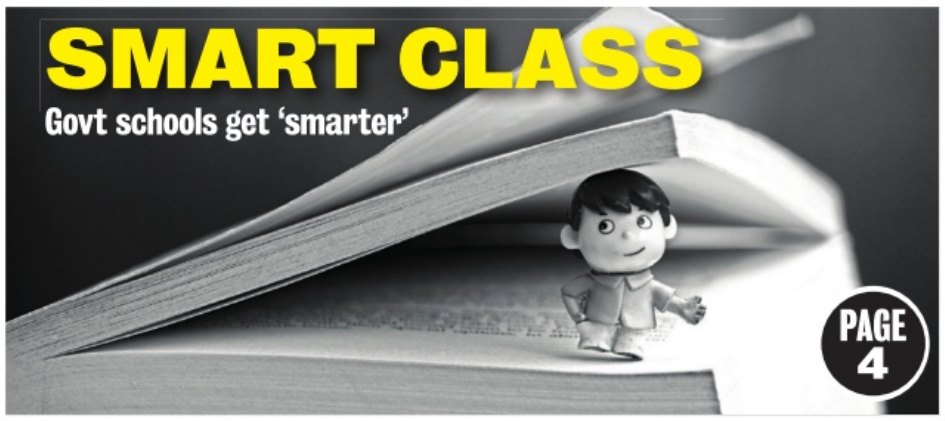
Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 31 | Min 13 | Humidity 33% Clear with periodic clouds Sensex 59,744 | Nifty 17,744 | Gold 56,209 | Silver 65,866 | Dollar 82.89 | Euro 88.18 | GBP 100.29



BWSSB yet to collect water bills of BDA flats, amounting to a whopping Rs 1,73,53,468, for 2013 to January 2023 period

GOOD BILL HUNTING

Residents paid Rs 350/month to ad hoc committee of RWA

| Y Maheswara Reddy
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) is in the news once again. The BWSSB authorities, known for penalising and disconnecting water supply for non-payment of bills, failed to collect water bills from some of the flats constructed by the Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) since 2013. The result: whopping arrears of Rs 1,73,53,468 (including the interest) till January 2023.

The residents said there were no arrears of water bills till the year 2013. They have been paying Rs 350 per month to an ad hoc committee of Kallahalli 2nd Phase BDA Flats Welfare Association.

They are now worried about the water supply: what if the BWSSB authorities disconnect the supply due to the non-payment of bills?

"I used to pay Rs 350 every month to the representative of the ad hoc committee. I was compelled to stop paying since the ad hoc committee failed to provide data on the collection of money from the flat

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7 »

"I used to pay Rs 350/month to an ad hoc committee. I was compelled to stop paying since the committee failed to provide data on the collection of money from the flat owners and the measures taken to remit the amount with the BWSSB

– Munirathnam Venkatesh, former secretary, 2nd Phase BDA Flats Welfare Association

Do heavy goods pose heavy danger?

Citizens divided as some say they cause accidents, others say bad roads are responsible

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City dwellers are concerned about road safety due to two-wheeler drivers carrying heavy goods.

A citizen, Narayan Hegde, took to twitter and shared images of pillion riders on bikes carrying large goods. "No police in Bengaluru will stop such people who carry oversized items on scooters and bikes. Shame on traffic police. Strangely, carrying overloaded and oversized goods is not a traffic violation in India," he tweeted.

Other residents from the city also complained about how this act makes the roads accident-prone. They said that there is a need to add a provision related to this in the Motor Vehicles Act.

"Steel rods and pipes protruding out of vehicles are dangerous. When we see someone carrying pipes or rods on two wheelers, we become extra careful as we never know when they might accidentally hit someone. This is especially a matter of concern at junctions and turns. It might lead to serious injury in case other riders fail to notice

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7 »

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Shadows in time

"Shadows in Time" by South Korean dance artist , presented in association with InKo Centre Chennai, is a requiem for the lives lost at the hands of political violence that exemplifies the unifying power of the experience of historical pain and the power of resistance, evoking absence and loss as well as the need to conceal our disillusionment with structures of power. Its first iteration was framed by the military coup and subsequent civil unrest in Myanmar and the second iteration was framed by the armed conflict in Ukraine.

Where: Bangalore international Centre
When: February 23, 7:30pm
Tickets: https://imojo.in/shadowsintime

02 Checkmate, peeps!

Bangalore Chess Club is an open chess community to join and be a part of! Come, play on the board chess with everyone, banter, trash talk and have fun! Bring your chess sets along.

Where: Lahe Lahe
When: Feb 26, 10am - 1pm

03 Spring shopping

Swiggy SteppinOut has returned to Bengaluru with the latest edition of the most loved shopping festival - 'SteppinOut Night Market – The Spring Edit'. The spring shopping spree will host 80+ of the finest lifestyle brand pop-ups with an exquisite shopping collection. With an artist lineup featuring Ronaldo, Ravi, Mandala, Manoj & Manohar, Cross Roads, and A Square as well as a range of activities that guests may partake in, the event promises an evening full of fun and entertainment.

Where: Jayamahal Palace Hotel
When: Feb 25, 12pm onwards
Tickets: bookmyshow.com

Age of learning: Start at six, kids

Minimum age for Grade 1 is six years; rule to be enforced 2025 onwards

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A directive by the Union Ministry of Education has asked states to align their admission policies with the age mandate set by them

The Centre on Wednesday has asked schools to enforce six years as the minimum age for admission to Grade one. However, the State Government has said that though it will follow the rule, the enforcement will not be from the coming academic year but from 2025-26.

On Wednesday, the Union Ministry of Education issued a directive asking states to align their age of admission for Grade 1 to 6+ years. The directive said that the National Education Policy 2020 recommends strengthening the learning of children at the foundational stage as a national priority for the country. This can only be done by ensuring accessibility to three years of quality preschool education for all children studying in Anganwadis or government/ government-aided, private and NGO-run preschool centres.

"... hence, we are reiterating directions to all the State Governments to align their age to admission with the policy and provide admission to Grade 1 at the age of 6+ years," said a directive from the Centre.

School Education Minister BC Nagesh told BM, "We had recently issued a circular stating that the new age rule will be applicable from 2025-26. Hence, the state government order will be applicable to all those parents who had admitted their kids to LKG or UKG before our official order was issued."

Another state education department official explained that earlier, the School Education Department had made six years the minimum age from the current academic year itself. This was opposed by the schools and parents as many had already admitted their kids to the schools and this order would mean that many of the kids who were yet to attain that age had to repeat one more year. Then, the department said that it would implement it from next year. However, many opposed this stating that it would affect those currently studying in LKG and UKG. Hence, the latest order has been issued that the age criterion will be applicable from 2025-26 academic year beginning from June 1, he added.

Gadgets banned during exams

The exam season has begun and this time, 7,27,387 students will be writing II PU exams at 1,109 exam centres whereas 8,69,490 students will be writing SSLC papers at 3,307 centres. PU and SSLC exams will be held between March 9 to April 15. The department held a meeting with police to ensure that there are no untoward incidents. Following the meeting, police will keep an eye on all the shops with photocopying machines, cyber centres, tutorials, computer games centres around the exam centres.

Students have been asked not to use any electronic gadgets including mobile phones, smart watch, Bluetooth-enabled earphones at the exam centre. However, all the exam centres will have a wall clock for the benefit of students.

Police have been asked to detain those who had indulged in exam malpractice in previous instances as a precautionary measure during exams. The police will also form special teams to keep an eye on those spreading rumours.

Horticulture fair kickstarts with a bang!

The National Horticulture Fair 2023 which kickstarted on Wednesday displayed various innovations in food and plants. From different food items which help in keeping fit and losing weight, to various technologies used to cultivate crops using fewer resources, the fair was an eye-opener to all.

One of the innovations by ICAR-Indian Institute of Horticultural Research, Bengaluru, was the value-added (millet-based) mushroom cookies. These protein-rich biscuits were made from pearl millet, little millet or jowar and were free of sugar and maida without any added preservatives. These biscuits have 13 to 15 per cent higher protein values than the other biscuits. Meanwhile another innovative product on display was agarbattis made out of flower waste.

Earlier, inaugurating the fair, Union

Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar said that horticulture was helping in doubling the farmer's income along with meeting the much-needed nutritional security. "The productivity of horticulture crops has increased by about 38.5 per cent in the past 15 years and this consistent and rapid increase in production and availability of horticultural crops shall bridge the gap between the nutritional security of the country with global average."

Deputy Director General (Horticultural Sciences) Dr AK Singh mentioned the recent initiatives of the institute such as seed portal, a centre of excellence for protected cultivation, vertical farming, sophisticated analytical instrument facilities (SAIF), and a food safety referral laboratory.

He said that the Hesaraghatta institute had developed leaf curl virus resistant chilly hybrids, carotene-rich marigold variety Arka Subha, Gerbera varieties and rose for import substitution, floral waste utilisation technology, honey bees assisted pollination in protected cultivation and cost-effective traps for Tuta Absoluta in tomato. - **BMB**

Public tussle of bureaucrats reaches court

The bitter public tussle between two senior women officers has reached the city civil and sessions court here, with IAS officer Rohini Sindhuri Dasari filing A suit against 60 respondents, including IPS officer Roopa D.

The suit was filed by Rohini on February 21 and came up for hearing before the LXXIII Additional City Civil and Sessions Judge on Wednesday. Her advocate sought an injunction restraining the media and Roopa from making and publishing false and defamatory statements against her.

The court was told that as per service rules, Rohini has already filed a complaint with the Chief Secretary of the State and also lodged a police complaint against Roopa. The advocate alleged that Roopa had obtained details from mobile phones illegally and released it in the public domain. The suit claimed that the IPS officer had released private photos of Rohini on her Facebook page and also disclosed her mobile number.

The Court adjourned the case to Thursday for orders.

Over the last few days, allegations have been made by Roopa against Rohini accusing her of several "wrongdoings" and sending her photos to other IAS officers. **–PTI**

All eyes on expired visas

Police have identified about 600 foreign nationals living in Bengaluru illegally

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Foreigners who have overstayed their visas have been identified in the city and their activities are being closely monitored, informed CCB Joint Commissioner Sharanappa.

Following the recent deportation of a woman to Pakistan, police are keeping an eye on illegal migrants. The woman was allegedly staying illegally in Bengaluru.

Iqra Jeewani, a 19-year-old Pakistani woman, met Mulayam Singh, an Indian citizen, while playing Ludo online. She later travelled all the way to India via Kathmandu to get married to him and even decided to stay back in Bengaluru.

Her stay came to an end on Sunday when authorities apprehended her and sent her back to Pakistan through the Attari land border. According to Bengaluru police data, around 600 foreigners have settled illegally in the city and 34 have been sent back to their countries so far.

Police found that the 600 people include citizens of Africa, Nigeria, and Bangladesh who are staying illegally in different parts of the city. While 34 of them have been deported to their countries, 50 have been kept in the Sondekoppa Detention Center in Nelamangala.

"Some foreigners have several active criminal cases against them related to petty theft and crime. There are criminal cases against more than 400 people who are involved in drug peddling, prostitution, extortion, and other criminal activities. They have settled in the city illegally. Some of them are in judicial custody and some are out on bail," added police.

According to cops, some foreigners who come to the city stay on even after the visa expires. The former are collecting information about illegal migrants and their activities are reportedly being monitored.

Woman dies by suicide

An incident in which a housewife committed suicide because of a family feud came to light in the KR Puram police station limits. The victim has been identified as Sai Sumana, 26, a resident of Ayyappa Nagar.

Police said that the deceased died by hanging herself at home on Monday night and the incident came to be known when her husband returned home.

Five years ago, Vedant Kumar of Kolar district and Sai sumana of Chikkaballapur district had a love marriage. The couple has a three-year-old son. Vedant ran a pani puri shop near the house. Recently, there was a dispute between the woman and husband over a family matter. They reportedly fought with each other frequently over this. There was a fight between Vedant and the deceased on Monday night as well. After this, Vedant left the house to bring food. Police said that this is when Sumana hung herself.

Man left behind for harassing woman on bus

With citizens still getting over the shock of a man urinating on a woman co-passenger on a flight recently, a similar incident has surfaced again on Tuesday night.

A man was left behind after urinating on a woman passenger travelling from Vijayapura to Hubballi in Vijayapura-Mangaluru bus. The accused was travelling from Vijayapura to Mangaluru. When the bus stopped for dinner at a local dhaba, he urinated on the lady who then complained about the crime to the bus driver.

The infuriated staff members took the 25-year-old mechanical engineer to task and left him at the dhaba itself without allowing him to re-board the bus. Later, when the media inquired about the incident, he reported the incident, adding that this was the reason why the bus arrived at its destination late. **–BMB**

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K'taka govt schools get 'smarter'

Smart Classes have been inaugurated at 10 government schools in, around Whitefield

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Thousands of students, especially from economically weak families, studying in government schools, have 'Smart Classes' to look forward to. These classes were inaugurated at 10 government schools in and around Whitefield on Tuesday by InnerWheel Club of Bangalore IT Corridor.

This project will provide digital education to students in Kannada-medium government schools. Digital projectors with screens, speakers, and pre-loaded Karnataka state syllabus from classes 1-10 will be provided. Animated multimedia lessons will help the children understand concepts easily with different learning styles. They will get the chance to master their lessons in a fun way through various interactive activities.

"I am very happy to have this facility here. Understanding lessons has become easier," said Anita A, a student of Government Primary School, Doddakannahalli.

Teachers will be trained on a one-on-one basis on how to use the equipment. There are assessments at the end of every chapter, which helps the teacher gauge the learning level of the children. Teachers can also connect to the internet through the projectors by using wi-fi or mobile data and explore a range of topics.

Appreciating the volunteers for providing Smart Classes, Doddakannahalli Government Primary School Headmaster, Neelakantappa MS, said that the initiative will help around 800 students. "This initiative will help the students participate in classes even if the teacher is on leave. The students can clear their doubts, if they have any, on the next day, when the teacher comes to school," said Neelakantappa.

Doddanekkundi Government Primary School Headmaster, Rame Gowda SB, said Smart Class would be a boon for the students. "We will focus on Smart Classes from the next academic year as we are focusing on Kalika Chetarike, a learning recovery programme introduced by the education department," said Gowda.

Sai Gurukul School Director, Shanthi Srinivasan, said the InnerWheel Club of Bangalore IT Corridor is closely associated with the school as they have been providing lunch for more than 450 students. Most of them are children from migrant families.

Inset: The inauguration of Smart Classes in Sai Gurukul School, Kundalahalli; both students and teachers are reportedly thrilled

> **The Smart Class has a projector and screen with pre-loaded state board syllabus in Kannada and English. It makes the class very active**
>
> – Shanthi Subramanian, InnerWheel Club of Bangalore IT Corridor

"The Smart Class initiative will benefit students. Our school is private, but provides education to migrant children free of cost," said Srinivasan.

InnerWheel Club of Bangalore IT Corridor president, Shanthi Subramanian, said that the association was proud of the initiative.

"The smart Class has a projector and screen with pre-loaded state board syllabus in Kannada and English. It makes the class very interactive and interesting and is definitely a positive step towards digital education at government schools. It is very user-friendly and a boon to teachers and children," she said.

District Chairman, Vinutha Harish, went ahead with the inauguration function on the first day of class.

Subramanian said the associations' east division has also sponsored one Smart Class at the cost of Rs 4 lakh, and 2,500 children have benefited from it.

Vinutha Harish said that as a women's organisation, bringing underprivileged children digital education was immensely satisfying.

Bottled-up traffic management on S-Cross Road

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There is still no solution for the regular, prolonged traffic congestion on S-Cross Road. Regular commuters say that they get stuck for hours on the road. They want the bottleneck to be tended to as soon as possible for smooth flow of traffic.

Residents in the area said that with every passing day, the traffic jams are only getting worse.

Naveen Padhiary, a commuter, said, "It takes me hours to cross this two-kilometre-long stretch. The road is so narrow it cannot even fit two cars side-by-side. I get stuck on this stretch for more than an hour on a regular basis. There must be something done to ensure that this bottleneck is cleared fast."

Sharad Acharya, also a commuter, told Bangalore Mirror, "There are so many apartments here, and with offices going back to regular operations, the vehicles on the road are also increasing. Due to this, the traffic jams are getting worse. Yesterday, I was stuck on this road for almost two hours. There was no way for me to pass through as it was jam-packed with vehicles."

Commuters complain that it takes them hours to navigate through this stretch

Residents reported that just last year, a few school buses carrying children were stuck on this road for hours. Passers-by had to help the children with water and other necessities. The latter ultimately came back without even attending classes.

Another commuter said, "A couple of months ago, school buses carrying kids were stuck on this road for ages. Despite incidents like this happening, the authorities are not taking any strict action to widen the road and make commuting hassle free for all citizens"

Siddharth Nair, another frustrated commuter, said that it was getting extremely difficult for everyone to pass through this road. "The last update we got was that the measurements on ground for widening the road had started, but after that, there was no follow-up on the issue. Moreover, there are very few traffic policemen managing so many vehicles. The number of police officials should also be increased. There is also an immediate need for a permanent solution so that people do not have to face this issue anymore."

The BBMP official responsible for the area was unavailable for comment.

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Park elsewhere!

Jayanagar

Vehicles parked in front of 'no parking' board in 33rd Cross, 4th Block Jayanagar, are troubling walkers.

Footpath ownership?

HBR Layout

This footpath in 6th Main, 9th Cross, HBR Layout is being blocked by a house owner.

BESCOM block

Jayanagar

This pavement is being blocked by a BESCOM transformer in 33rd Cross, 4th Block, Jayanagar.

For the love of mangoes

City sees early sale of mangoes; bumper crop expected this year, experts advise to maintain cleanliness on farms for better yield

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It's only the last week of February and many areas in the city have already been selling ripe mangoes. In fact, shops in the Vijayanagar area are selling a kilogram of Banganpalli mangoes for Rs 200. However, experts say that the mango season is yet to start.

"As of now, the mango trees are flowering and it will take a few more weeks before the raw mangoes start flooding the market. Only later, the ripe fruits are available. However, there are a few shops in the city that use either the products from cold storage or artificial measures to ripen the fruit," said Chandrappa, a fruit seller.

Though in few shops, mangoes are available almost across the year, the mango season is still considered to last from March second week to August.

According to the experts, a bumper crop is expected this year. However, there are still two major threats before the mangoes are actually plucked for sales. As of now, there are no predictions of unseasonal rainfall.

In the last few years, the unseasonal rainfall has played spoilsport. They added that excessive day temperatures can also result in flowers dropping down.

As the monsoon continued for more than expected time during last year, the soil was moist and it delayed the flowering of the plants. The winter was too delayed. This resulted in the delaying of fruits by a few weeks. At present, the dense flowers in the mango trees created an expectation of good yield in these areas.

> **As of now, the mango trees are flowering and it will take a few more weeks before the sale of raw mangoes begin**
> –Chandrappa, a fruit seller

Experts advise that maintaining cleanliness on the farm will yield good results and also control diseases and worms. Removing the grass and weed will also help in moisture to evaporate in the air. The soil must be loosened. Cleaning of the farm must start now, as the worms lay eggs in the waste, it can create worms in the fruits.

Usually, it is a cycle where one year there will be a good supply of mangoes and the other year comparatively lesser. However, in the last two years, there has been a dip in supplies, and hence it is expected to be a bumper crop this year.

The mangoes are grown in 2 lakh hectares of land in the state. The annual production of mangoes is to the tune of 14 to15 lakh metric tonnes. The Bengaluru market also receives mango supply from Tamil Nadu.

How to watch out for chemical usage for ripening?

If the mango that you buy isn't tasty or supple enough, it has been possibly ripened artificially using calcium carbide. The calcium carbide is wrapped in small packets and placed between fruits for quick ripening. Many traders use ethylene sachets, which are kept below the straws in the packed boxes. Apart from poor taste and quality, these mangoes can put a person at the risk of headache, dizziness and sleep disorders, affecting the neurological system, and causing memory loss and cancer. According to the officials, it is illegal to use chemical packets to ripen fruits.

How to identify chemical usage?

Naturally ripened mangoes sink in water while others float. Artificially ripened fruits have a uniform colour, have a milder aroma, and are not juicy and supple.

In the last two years, there has been a dip in supplies. This year, rich supply is expected

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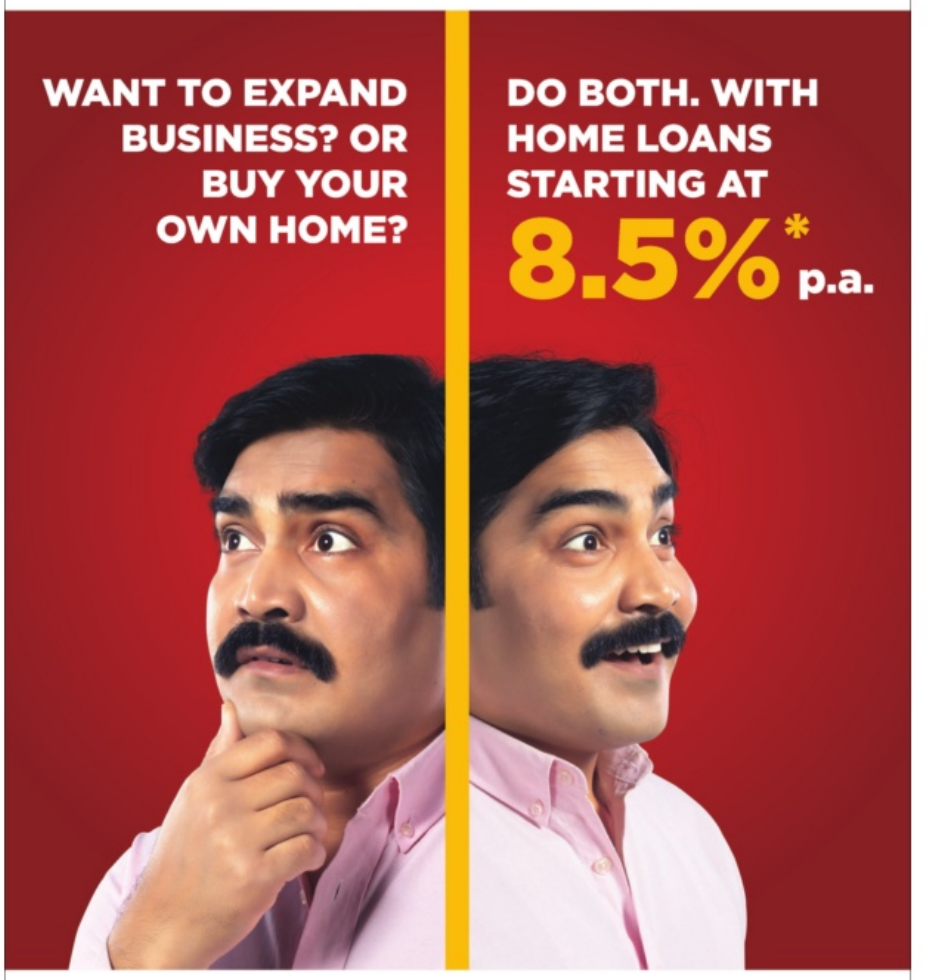

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Students move SC for nod to take exam wearing hijabs

The Supreme Court said on Wednesday it will take a call on listing a plea for allowing Muslim girl students to sit for examinations in Karnataka government schools while wearing the hijab. Following the apex court's split verdict on the issue of ban on sporting the Islamic headscarf in educational institutions in Karnataka, girls in hijab are not being permitted to take the exams scheduled to begin from March 9, a bench headed by Chief Justice DY Chandrachud was told.

"They are wearing headscarf. If they are wearing headscarf they are not allowed inside the examination hall. Only on that limited aspect, the court may consider listing it on Monday or Friday," said lawyer Shadan Farasat.

He told the bench, also comprising Justice PS Narasimha, that a few girls have moved to private institutions because of the prohibition on wearing hijab but have to take their exams in government institutions. They risk losing another year if not permitted, he said. "I will take a call," the CJI said.

> **Apex court to take a call on listing plea on headscarf**

Due to the split verdict, the high court's judgement still holds. The split verdict on October 13 last year held off a permanent resolution to the hijab row as both judges suggested placing the matter before a larger bench for adjudication. The top court had said last month it will consider setting up a three-judge bench to adjudicate the case related to the ban on wearing the Muslim headgear in Karnataka government schools.

While Justice Hemant Gupta, since retired, had dismissed the appeals challenging the March 15, 2022 judgement of the High Court that had refused to lift the ban, Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia held there should be no restriction on wearing hijab in schools and colleges. Permitting a community to wear symbols will be an "antithesis to secularism", Justice Gupta had said, while Justice Dhulia insisted that putting on the headscarf should be a "matter of choice". **PTI**

HELPING THEM HEAL

NIMHANS' latest surveillance system is a model designed to track and help people with suicidal thoughts

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The National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS) is coming out with a surveillance system to track incidents of suicide and self-harm and help people struggling with such issues. Called 'SURAKSHA', this is a community-based suicide prevention model.

According to the World Health Organisation (WHO) report of 2021, over 7,00,000 people die and many more attempt suicide every year. It is a global phenomenon which occurs in all regions of the world. WHO recommends that suicide prevention should involve collaboration with multiple sectors for national responses to be effective.

Project SURAKSHA is funded by the Himalayas Wellness Company Pvt Ltd, which aims to implement a comprehensive suicide prevention programme in Channapatna Taluk of Ramanagaram District in Karnataka. The programme will be launched on Thursday at the Zilla Panchayat Hall in Ramnagar district.

Dr Anish V Cherian, Associate Professor, Department, Psychiatric Social Work (PSW), NIMHANS said, "Project SURAKSHA goes in line with the suicide prevention approach of WHO's 'Live Life' to develop an indigenised model of suicide prevention for Channapatna Taluk of Ramanagaram district in Karnataka with a comprehensive surveillance system in the community. Over six packages are proposed that include community-based surveillance, brief intervention for self-harm and suicidality, training for students, teachers and media professionals, development of information communication and education materials for suicide prevention and central storage of pesticides."

Under the community-based surveillance all the 32 panchayats of the taluk are said to involved in developing the community-based surveillance team.

The gram panchayat task force from each panchayat would be focused and the readiness to intervene would be assessed and based on the assessment, Suicide Surveillance Team (SST) would be developed and the team would be trained on suicide risks and protective factors, said Dr Cherian.

Under the SURAKSHA programme, 10 centralised pesticides storage centres will be developed in collaboration with local self-government. "Most of the global studies, including studies from India and Sri Lanka have shown that people attempt suicide through poisoning. The most common way used in India is by consuming pesticides. Reducing the access to pesticides is one of the major ways for suicide prevention. Having a centralised storage system for pesticides will be very helpful, as the farmers or other people can go and pick it up from the storage facility and will not have access to store in their houses," said Dr Cherian.

From community-based suicide prevention to training students, teachers, media professionals, the programme is a comprehensive one

This apart, the medical and allied staff from the primary care hospitals will be trained on providing brief intervention for patients reporting suicide and self-harm attempt to the district, taluk hospitals, primary health centres (PHCs) and Community Health Centres (CHC).

Talking about the advantages of the programme, Dr Cherian said, "The programme would provide evidence to the feasibility and acceptability of community-based suicide prevention programs and its cost-effectiveness, and it also establish a cohort for future longitudinal studies. We would be able to enable the community members in suicide prevention through early identification, referral and intervention in the nearest available medical resource. Hence, this programme would sustain by itself with minimal supervision."

'Will keep building BJP'

In what was probably his "farewell speech" in the Karnataka Legislative Assembly where he was a member for decades, state BJP strongman and former Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa on Wednesday said that he will honestly strive towards building the party and bring it to power till the last breath of his life.

The 79-year-old veteran leader, who has already announced his retirement from electoral politics, said there is no question of him sitting at home, and after the assembly session, he will tour the state and campaign for the party and its candidates.

Intervening during the discussion on state budget, the four times elected CM repeatedly urged the ruling party legislators to go before the people with confidence and seek votes and said it is certain that the BJP will come back to power with a clear majority

"If God gives me strength in the next election too, which is five years after this election, I will make all efforts for the BJP to come to power. As you are already aware I have said that I will not be contesting polls, but the respect shown to me and positions given to me by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the party cannot be forgotten during my lifetime," he said.

BJP strongman BS Yediyurappa interacts with CM Basavaraj Bommai during state budget

"Till the last breath of my life I will honestly strive for building BJP and to bring it to power, let there be no doubts about it.... I want to tell all our (BJP) MLAs on this side (treasury benches) to work with confidence and prepare for election, many from that side (opposition) are ready to come with us, if you are confident, we can take them along and bring back BJP to power with a clear majority, " he said.

Noting that he was speaking for the last time in the Assembly, with the session set to conclude on Friday, Yediyurappa said, "This in a way is my farewell, as I cannot come to the assembly and speak after this."

Speaker Vishweshwar Hegde Kageri and Parliamentary Affairs Minister J C Madhuswamy however intervened and said, Yediyurappa will be making his last address in the House on Friday. **–PTI**

Beware of the off-season flu blues

Doctors say weather and pollution may partly be to blame for bouts of influenza

Sridhar.Vivan
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @sridharvMIRROR

A growing number of people have been falling sick due to influenza and doctors say the weather and Bengaluru's pollution are to blame partially.

Dr Bindumathi PL (Sr. Consultant - Internal Medicine, Aster CMI Hospital) said that doctors have noticed a 70 per cent rise in influenza occurrences among patients aged 25 and above. Due to Bengaluru's hazardous weather fluctuations over the last one to two months, there is an abnormal pattern in the growth in the number of cases. Also, the symptoms are persisting longer than normal, she said, adding that air pollution aggravates the respiratory symptoms of cough, wheeze and breathlessness.

Many kids are also falling sick. The spurt is partly due to the fact that children, being indoors for most part of the two years, have had a decline in their antibody levels.

Kids are also falling sick at alarming rates

Dr Parimala V Thirumalesh (Sr Consultant-Neonatology and Paediatrics from Aster CMI) added, "At least 20–22 of the 30 children tested positive for influenza, and some of them are being admitted to the hospital since they also have moderate signs of pneumonia. Children who are admitted receive supportive care in addition to IV fluids for hydration. In crowded places like schools, influenza spreads quickly. Simple precautions like discarding tissues used for coughing or sneezing and maintaining proper hygiene will help."

Dr Deepak R (Consultant - Pediatric Intensive Care, Rainbow Children's Hospital, Marathahalli) said the most common virus implicated this season has been the influenza A virus and 'this is the trend we are seeing across India including Bengaluru, where Influenza A (H3N2) is the most common circulating strain'.

While the younger generation may not be as affected, elderly individuals with comorbidities such as diabetes, strokes, heart problems, etc., are at a higher risk. As this trend typically starts in October/ November, thus, taking one dose of vaccine every year during the months from March-May can help prevent this viral infection. Vaccines with the new strain come to market after April, said Dr Aravinda GM (Consultant - Internal Medicine, Manipal Hospital, Jayanagar).

On the water bills trail

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

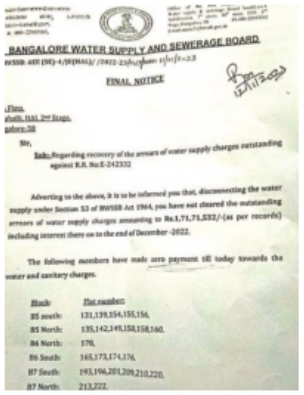
owners and the measures taken to remit the amount with the BWSSB. I want the BWSSB authorities to fix this issue in the interest of flat owners," said Munirathnam Venkatesh, former secretary of 2nd Phase BDA Flats Welfare Association.

Expressing shock over the huge amount of arrears, P Kalidasa Reddy, a resident said that it would be difficult for the flat owners to pay the arrears since the BWSSB authorities did not specify the amount that has to be paid by individual flat owners.

Meanwhile, R Muralidharan of ad hoc committee of Kallahalli 2nd Phase BDA Flats Welfare Association, told BM over a phone call from Chennai that the water bill arrears issue is between the BWSSB and the flat owners.

According to a document available with Bangalore Mirror, Muralidharan, in a circular, stated that among 126 members, 88 members of the ad hoc committee have paid the amount to it. It indicates that the ad hoc committee has received around Rs 30,000 every month towards the water supplied to the flat owners. It is not clear whether the ad hoc committee has been paying the amount received from the flat owners to the BWSSB. Muralidharan did not respond to the query on the arrears of Rs 1,73,53,468.

When contacted, BWSSB assistant executive engineer (South-East)-4 said he has issued a final notice to the BDA flat owners at Kallahalli recently advising them to clear the outstanding arrears of water supply charges amounting to Rs 1,71,71,532 (as per records) including interest thereon for a period till the end of December 2022.



BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD

FINAL NOTICE

Sir,

Sub: Regarding recovery of the arrears of water supply charges outstanding against R.R. No:E-242332

Adverting to the above, it is to be informed you that, disconnecting the water supply under Section 53 of BWSSB Act 1964, you have not cleared the outstanding arrears of water supply charges amounting to Rs.1,71,71,532/-(as per records) including interest there on to the end of December -2022.

The following members have made zero payment till today towards the water and sanitary charges.

Block:	Flat number:
85 south:	131,139,154,155,156,
85 North:	135,142,149,158,158,160,
86 North:	170,
86 South:	165,173,174,176,
87 South:	193,196,201,209,210,220,
87 North:	213,222.

The copy of the recent notice

The assistant executive engineer stated in the notice that the auditors of BWSSB have taken strong objection regarding the non-recovery of arrears of water supply charges and have urged to recover the same as on arrears of land revenue as per Section 108 of BWSSB Act 1964.

"Hence you are hereby requested to clear the above outstanding arrears within seven days from the date of receipt of this letter. Failing which water supply and sanitary connection will be disconnected without issuing further notice, and action for the acquiring concern property by the recovery officer (tahsildar) will be initiated," the BWSSB assistant executive engineer said in the notice.

Of heavy stuff on vehicles & bad roads

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

them on time," said Sanjay Murthy, a resident of Vidyaranyapura.

However, some citizens said that this will be unfair to bike riders; they felt penalising them for carrying goods is not correct.

"It's not large goods on bikes that cause accidents, but rather bad roads. Heavy goods are not significant contributors to road accidents. I have seen vehicles being caught by traffic police for carrying oversized goods.

The reason for traffic in Bengaluru is bad planning and worse execution. Lack of proper alternative modes of transportation has also had a significant impact on forcing people to take their own vehicles for commuting and carrying goods. Penalising one guy with a pipe or some transport vehicle with products extending out of their body is not the answer to traffic problems in Bengaluru," said Ranjeet Adiga.

Kuldeep Kumar R Jain, deputy commissioner of police, traffic west, said the Motor Vehicle Act has no provision for goods being carried on a bike, but if the goods create traffic obstructions, police can take action.

"Goods that are carried on bikes can be for personal consumption, so that is not creating much trouble on the road. We haven't noticed any accidents occurring because of that as well. I can't comment if any provision will be added related to this issue in the near future because it is decided by the government of India.

We have to follow whatever is specified in the Motor Vehicles Act. But if someone is carrying very large goods on their vehicle and obstructing traffic, we can take action. However, we also have to interpret the law in our way for some of these cases as there is no direct provision," he said.

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personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I, ANNAPOORNA RAMENDAR D/o Viswanath Bokkasam R/o #1247, Chaitanya 6th Cross, Between 27th and 28th Main, Behind RV Dental College, 1st phase, JP Nagar, have changed my name to ANNAPOORNA BOCCASAM affidavit Dt.22/02/2023 Notary Ganesh Gowda M.V, B'luru

I, Salaman Deva kumar, S/o. GnanaSheelan, D.O.B: 04.03.1988, Residing at ,No 503 30th A cross Thilak nagar Bangalore 560041. have changed my name to SOLOMON DEVAKUMAR S/o Gnana Seelan . , vide affidavit dated: 17.02.2023 before notary CHANDRAKALA, Bengaluru.

I Shweta d/o Krishna Pal Singh R/o 283, A Block AECS Layout, Kundalahalli Bengaluru 560037 changed my name to Shweta Singh Rajput for all purposes.

I, Ravi Jagdishkumar Makwana R/o No.11 Flat.003, Janani Apts, 1st cross, 2nd main, Vijaya layout Arekere B.G Road, B'luru 560076 have changed my name to Ravibhai Jagdishbhai Makwana affidavit Dt.22/02/2023 notary Ganesh Gowda M.V, B'luru

I, B R Harish R/o No 07, Om Saidham, 1st Main, 3rd Cross, siddhivinayak Layout, Sanjaynagar, B'luru 560094,ka have changed my minor daughter name from Mishika Balur Harisha to Mishika Harish Naik for all purposes.

I, Uma P S D/o Siddaramaiah P R/o W/o Nanjundaswamy H B, #17, Shambulingeshwara Nilaya, Hullukatte, Eachanur Post, Tiptur Tq, Tumkur Dist, Karnataka-572201 have changed my name to Umadevi P S for all purposes.

I, Pallavi N G R/o #188, 9th Cross, Opp 9th Avenue, Bank Avenue, Kalyananagar, Bengaluru 560043 have changed my name to PALLAVI SOMANATH affidavit Dt.22/02/2023 notary Ganesh Gowda M.V, B'luru

I Khushboo Gupta W/O, Ravikumar Harishkumar Gupta R/o D-001 Arvind Skylands, Off Jakkur Road, Shivanahalli, Bangalore 560064 have changed my name to Khushbu Gupta

I, PARAMESWARAN S/o T N Kumaresan R/o No. 92, 1st Cross, LIC Colony, 3rd Block East, Jayanagar, Bengaluru 560011 have changed my name to THANDALAM KUMARESAN PARAMESWARAN, affidavit Dt.21/02/2023 notary Ganesh Gowda M V, B'luru

I, Samreen Taj Bangalore D/o Rafeeq Ahmed R/o 27 6th Cross Someshwaranagar Jayanagar 1st Block Bangalore-560011. have changed my name & shall hereafter be known as Samreen Taj for the purpose of Passport.

I Shah Sanjaykumar Babulal S/O, Shah Babulal Chunilal R/o 51282, Prestige Falcon City, Konankunte, Kanakpura Main Road, Bangalore - 560062 have changed my name to Shah Sanjay for all purposes.

I Paveen Kolathanda Thimmaiah W/o Ravindra Divakar Naik R/o # 720, 13 B Cross Chandralayout, Nagarabhavi,1 Stage, B'luru 560072 have changed my name to Paveen Thimmaiah for all purposes.

I, Vishal Chander R/o Villa 41, Abhee Prakruthi, SY No 42, Iggaluru, Chandapura, Bengaluru-560099 have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known As Vishal Chander Dogra.

I, Aarti w/o Rohit Malhotra R/o Flat M208,Brigade Gatewa - y Apts, Rajajinagar, Bengaluru 560055 have changed my name to AARTI MALHOTRA affidavit Dt.22/02/2023 notary Ganesh Gowda M.V, B'luru

I, Bhashkar C R/o #21, G-floor, 7th Cross, 6th main, Sriramana -gar, Ittamadu, BSK 3rd stage, Bengaluru 560085 have changed my name to Bhaskar C, affidavit Dt.22/02/2023 notary Ganesh Gowda M.V, B'luru

I, Nayeem R/o No.5, 4th A Cross Kanaka Nagar Bangalore - 560032 have changed my minor daughter's name from Aiza Nayeem to Rushda Maryam for all purposes.

I, Sujatha Chumma W/o K.Nagesh R/o No 56,3rd Cross, Lalbagh Main Road, K.S. Garden, Bengaluru 560027 have changed my name to Sujatha Nagesh for all purposes.

I Mahammad Nouman S/O, Mushtak Ahmed R/o S/o: Mushtaq Ahmed, #243, Heelalige, Bangalore, 560099 have changed my name to Mohammed Nouman

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HEALTH TIP: Brush your teeth at least twice a day using a medium-soft toothbrush, and use Fluoridated toothpaste

Skipping is a great exercise to improve your cardiovascular fitness and muscle endurance

BangaloreMirror | 9
Thursday, February 23, 2023
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How fitness influencers game algorithms to pump up their engagement

The FITNESS GAME

Social media and misrepresentation can go hand in hand – and that's especially the case in the loosely regulated fitness and nutrition industry.

We both have experience with personal training, but from different perspectives.

To improve his fitness regimen, Tim has sought out experienced trainers, while Ashley ran an online fitness and nutrition company before getting her doctorate.

She went through all the hoops to obtain credentials – training as a bodybuilder, obtaining certifications from the National Strength and Conditioning Association and studying nutrition through the National Academy of Sports Medicine. She also used Instagram to grow her business.

And yet both of us realized that individuals with no credentials or expertise were building their own brands on social media – sometimes making more money than those who were credentialed.

It made us wonder: How is this possible?

To explore this, we followed 488 fitness and nutrition influencers on Instagram for six months, analyzing over 50,000 posts, 8 million follower comments and 620,000 influencer replies to figure out how they used words and images to attract and interact with followers.

In our forthcoming Academy of Management Journal article, we explain how just establishing a social media presence doesn't mean a would-be influencer can easily reach clients, as the social media platform's algorithm determines who sees what posts, and when. And even if influencers do attract large followings, social media users shouldn't necessarily buy what the influencers are selling.

The rise of the influencer

Social media use has more than tripled in the past decade, and many young people now aspire to become successful influencers. A Morning Consult poll from 2019 found that 54% of Americans ages 13 to 38 said they would become an influencer if given the chance.

But what exactly does it mean to be an influencer?

Influencers are people who use social media to sell products or services – either their own or those of another company or brand. Successful influencers gain better placement in their followers' social media feeds, obtain brand endorsements, facilitate networking opportunities and cultivate other revenue streams.

They do this by getting social media users to engage with their accounts – to follow their profiles, like their posts and write comments.

Although the algorithms social media platforms use to decide what users see are shrouded in mystery, it's generally understood that algorithms will boost accounts that have a lot of followers and regularly interact with these followers.

Gaming the algorithm

Successful influencers will leverage these different degrees of user engagement to build and grow their businesses. But they need to be strategic about which images and words they use, since each can influence different parts of the algorithm.

Images generally attract someone's attention before text, and they're also processed more quickly than text. So influencers must choose their images wisely.

We found that images that reinforce the influencers' competence – in the case of fitness influencers, photos and videos highlighting their physiques and ability to perform exercises, or "before and after" photos of themselves and their clients – had the largest effect on their number of followers.

Our data showed that for every image post signaling their competence, fitness influencers boosted their followers by almost 3%. That's significant when you consider that each additional follower can result in more revenue from sponsors and sales. According to the music licensing site Lickd, Instagram users with 5,000 followers can earn about US$350 per sponsored post, and influencers with 100,000 followers can earn double that.

The trick, of course, is attracting sponsors.

But amassing lots of followers isn't the only path to ensuring success on social media. Influencers also need their followers to interact with their posts. This is typically much more time-intensive for users than clicking "follow" and mindlessly scrolling. But this sort of engagement can easily sway the algorithm.

Most social media users want to feel they're building a community, not just spewing their thoughts into a digital void. So successful influencers can cultivate connection by regularly replying to their followers' comments.

This can be something as simple as "Hey @instagram_girl292, I love that you tried our new product. We are so excited to hear what you think about the next one!"

We found that influencers who project warmth and reply to comments garner 21% more positive replies from current and new followers.

Buyer beware

It's important to remember that influencers can project competence without actually having it – and that regular engagement with followers says little about the quality of the product they're selling.

In the sample we used for our study, fewer than 20% of the influencers reported having any credentials.

The fitness industry is especially prone to manipulation. While brick-and-mortar gyms traditionally require their personal trainers to have advanced credentials, such as certifications in fitness or nutrition, there is no industry governing body ensuring that people who call themselves trainers have the necessary background and experience. Therefore, anyone can become a trainer and sell their products and services online and through social media.

In fact, many fitness influencers doctor their images, giving themselves unrealistic and unattainable bodies.

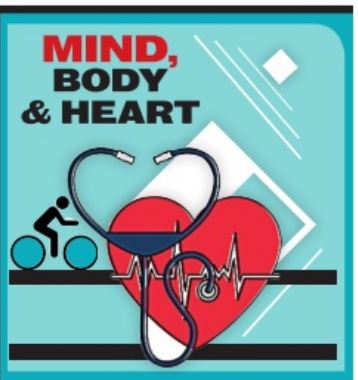
Worse, they may not ever follow through on their promises.

For example, social media influencer Brittany Dawn was sued by thousands of her followers in February 2022 after they claimed she sold them fitness and meal plans she never delivered. Pitching herself as someone who could help people rebuild their relationship with food, Dawn had attracted followers and customers who had struggled with eating disorders. Responding to the criticism, Dawn, whose trial is set to begin on March 6, 2023, said, "I jumped into an industry that had no instruction manual."

Providing custom meal plans is outside most personal trainers' scope of expertise, unless they also happen to be nutritionists. But given the lack of industry oversight, few customers knew this. Instead, Dawn, like many other social media influencers, lured followers by posting attention-grabbing photos and interacting with customers in ways that made them feel like they had a personal relationship with her.

That means that it's up to everyone to do their homework on what they're buying – and not be blinded by shapely legs, an alluring smile and six-pack abs.

Ashley Roccapriore and Tim Pollock, University of Tennessee for The Conversation



All problems solved

Dear Coleen

I'm a woman aged 81 and I'm extremely fit for my age. I have no mobility or health issues. My husband is 79 and also in good shape. We have two grown-up children in their 40s and four adorable grandchildren. My problem is, although my husband and I are doing great for our age, our kids don't seem to accept we are, nevertheless, getting on a bit and find it tiring and stressful when they all descend on our house together and stay for days. We love seeing them all of course, but inevitably we end up cooking and cleaning, and helping with the grandchildren. How can we tell them tactfully that things will have to change so we don't feel under such pressure when we're all together?

COLEEN SAYS

It's important to be honest, but I understand it is difficult all round when people have to accept change. You sound like you're a close family, so I do think it's possible to be truthful in a nice way without upsetting anyone. Because you are doing so great for your age, your kids probably just haven't thought about the fact you don't have the same energy as you did. So, simply explain that while you love the family coming to visit, you're also exhausted when they leave and wondered if you could put your heads together and think of some ways to meet up that involve less work. The bottom line is, everyone has to accept that you're getting older, and adapt. And it doesn't have to feel like a negative change. For example, meeting up could involve more time at your kids' houses, more fun days out, more meeting up for lunch or a walk in the park, and maybe even a holiday where they look after you, so you can relax. It's just about thinking of different ways to see each other.

—Coleen Nolan, Daily Mirror

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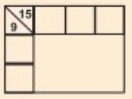
SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

A man cycles to a village at 18 km/h and returns at 12 km/h. If he takes 6 ¼ hours for the double journey, how far does he ride altogether?

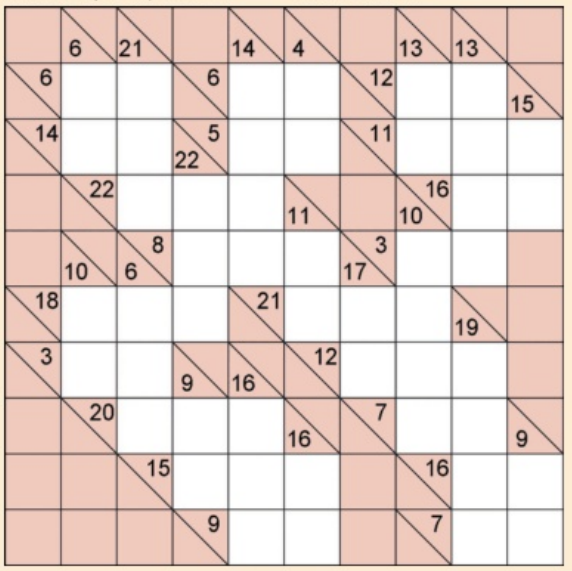
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

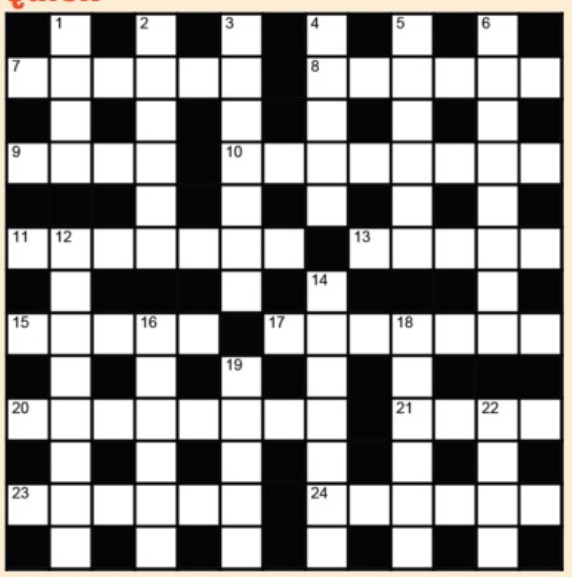


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 Interim ruler (6)
8 Part of a legal contract (6)
9 Soybean product (4)
10 Glorified (8)
11 Searched rapidly and thoroughly (7)
13 The smallest particles of an element or elements (5)
15 Destroy gradually (5)
17 Raise status (7)
20 End (8)
21 Get by (4)
23 Recorded (2,4)
24 Row or tiff, shindy (4-2)

DOWN

1 Short note (4)
2 Telangana's tongue? (6)
3 Expressed or spoke (7)
4 Very severe (5)
5 System of voting (6)
6 Held in high regard (8)
12 Comic drawings (8)
14 Adds on (7)
16 Our city is located in this plateau (6)
18 Alcove (6)
19 Geometrical solids (5)
22 Sullen expression (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: T EQUALS P

GSOC OCA YJAQOAJ TQJO FE JSWC TAFTHA, OCA WCSAE ADNFKRADO FE JSWCAZ WFDZSZOZ SD OCA TQJQBA FE JSWCAZ.

Linemaro

Do you come with milk and coffee? Because you are my sugar

Mindchow

The one who asks questions doesn't lose his way

Joke of the day

What did earth say to other planets? Wow, you guys have no life

Loop

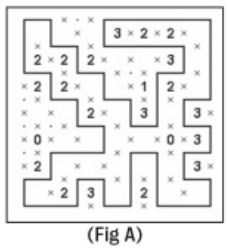
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

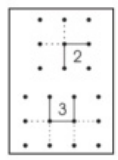
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

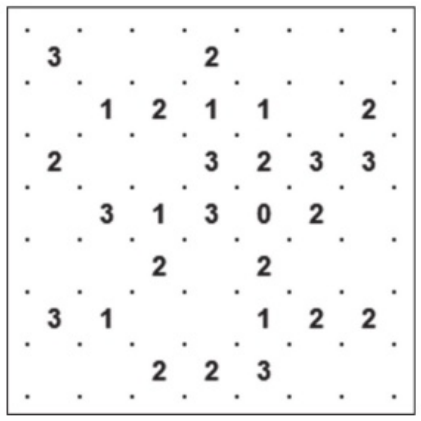
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



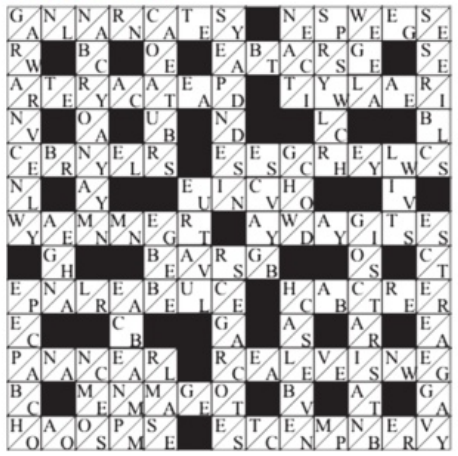
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



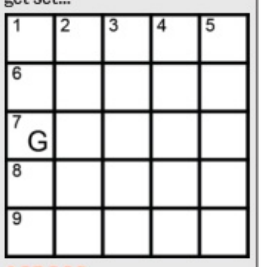
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set....



ACROSS

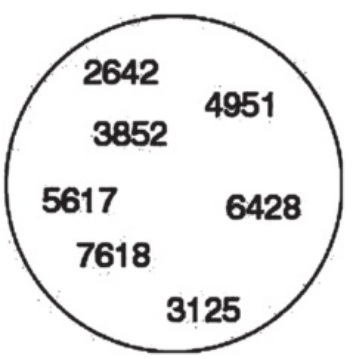
1 C Math; 6 Ligae;
7 Groat; 8 Umami;
9 Scant

DOWN

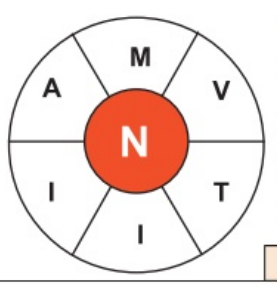
1 Gamic; 2 Am Aga;
3 Taint; 4 Lo cut;
5 Mrs he

Mensapuzzle

Which number is the odd one out?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

03 Average; 04 Good; 05 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

		6		1		3		
			2		7			
5		1	9		3	8		4
	2						6	
6			3	7	8			2
	9						5	
7		2	6		4	9		5
			8		1			
		9		5		6		

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 3
1 2 6 6

Medium = 29
3 5 5 9

Hard = 8
1 8 9 7

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

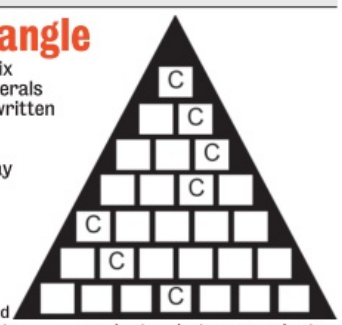
Differences: 1. Ball is missing. 2. Arm is lower. 3. Shirt is different. 4. Cap is different. 5. Freckles are added. 6. Puddle is smaller.

Riddler

When you curtail a word, you remove the last letter and still have a valid word. You will be given clues for the two words, longer word first.

Alpha triangle

1 Atomic number Six
2 99 in Roman numerals
3 Intentionally so written
4 Snaps
5 Opposite of limp
6 Text of film or play
7 Arm muscles



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

Bizarrotrip

Diamond Lil

Hart of the city

WE'RE ALL DONE HERE, MS. WELLS!
THANKS... SO... MUCH... SWEETIE...
IT... ALWAYS... TAKES... SO... LONG... TO... DO...
YOU'RE... A... LIFE... SAVER...
SHE TALKS SO SLOW!! YOU WERE THERE FOR FIVE MINUTES!
SHE ALSO PAID US FIFTY BUCKS.
I'LL STOP COMPLAINING.

Crankshaft

IS THE STATION REALLY PLANNING TO BRING BACK THEIR OLD WEATHERMAN, PHIL THE FORECASTER?
WE ARE... AND THE FIRST PERSON WHO REFERS TO HIM AS A 'PHIL'-IN...
IS GOING TO HAVE TO CLEAN UP THE STUDIO AFTER 'POOCH PARADE' ON FRIDAY!
12-14

Mutts

MAYBE THAT'S NOT SANTA CLAUS.
OF COURSE THAT'S SHANTA. WHO ELSE COULD IT BE!?!
MAYBE IT'S JUST SOME OLD GUY WITH A WHITE BEARD.
WHAT ARE THE ODDS OF THAT!?!
mutts.com
12-17

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today you are blessed by the moon and may perform well on the professional front. You may implement your business plans very easily with the help of your colleagues. Intellectual and financial investments may start bringing profits now, which may increase your confidence level. You may use your wisdom to gain benefits.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today you are blessed by the moon. Your spiritual power can make you happy. Your way of thinking may be positive. You are inclined to spiritualism today. You may plan to visit some spiritual place. You may also take an interest in occult sciences. You are likely to observe flawlessness in your nature. It is advised to keep your views to yourself.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today You may feel nervous. You may lack patience. For seeking peace, you may be attracted to the occult, but it is advised to follow your intuition before going ahead. You may also get deep knowledge on a subject or you may have good focus on research work. Chanting mantras may help you in this situation.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today you are blessed by the moon, which may help you improve your inner strength. You are likely to get some new opportunities for your business and work, which will pay you off in terms of gains in the near future. Couples may hear good news in terms of childbirth. Lovebirds are advised to be clear in their opinion with each other to make their future bright.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today you are blessed by the moon and things are now under control. Your performance may be praised by your seniors and you may expect promotions. Money that was stuck is likely to be recovered now. It may help in increasing liquidity in business. There may be some good news in terms of legal matters. In partnerships, many issues are likely to be resolved now.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today you may hear good news in terms of work. Jobseekers may be focused on cracking entrance exams with the help of hard work. Singles may hear good news in terms of marriage. Couples may hear some good news in terms of childbirth.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today you may plan for a change in place, but it is advised to postpone any decision related to migration for now. It is also advised to avoid investments in business. By late evening, situations may be under control. With the help of good advice from one of your elders, you may control a messy situation.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today you may have good patience. Meditation may help you increase your concentration, which will speed up your projects. Your subordinates may cooperate with you. It may help you to complete a project before time. There may be some short trips related to work. You are likely to meet an influential person who will help you to boost your business.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today you may spend money to buy some creative items or artefacts to renovate your house, which may increase your social status. You may implement some new plans into your family business. It will pay you in terms of gains in the near future. You may also be busy with family and social get-togethers.

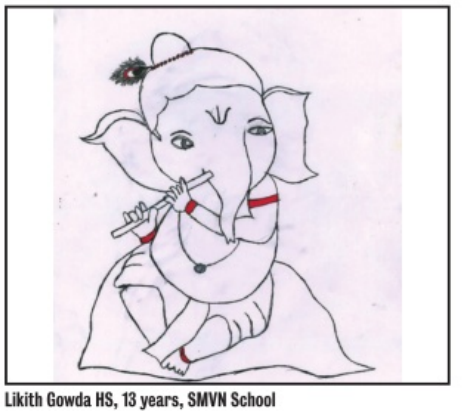
Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today is a good day for you. You may have good vitality and health. You may enjoy your work. Today you must avoid straightforwardness. It is advised to avoid arguments on worthless topics, otherwise there may be some disputes in the family. Jobseekers will find suitable work. Lovebirds are advised to avoid arguments on worthless topics.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today you are not blessed by the moon. You may feel unhappy and may become impatient today. You may find it difficult to perform your task. You may not be able to fulfil your desires. You want to be detached from a given responsibility. You may not be able to complete any task.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, with the moon on your side, work-related pressure may ease. Your earnings may convert to profits now. You are likely to invest for a long term period. You may get an overseas work order, which may give you financial benefits in the coming future. You may find your soulmate. Students may hear good news in terms of their academics.

KIDZONE

Sannuth S, 9 years, Agragami Vidya Kendra



Likith Gowda HS, 13 years, SMVN School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M x is the distance from A:starting position to B:finished position at village. The return riding BA=x km, Time t1 = x/18; t2=x/12 (hour) if t1+t2 = 6.25 h, then x/18+x/12 = 25/4 x = 25/4*36/5 x = 45 km
Riding distance altogether : 90 km

BULL'S EYE main, mint, mint, vain, VITAMIN

M	A	T	C	H
I	M	A	U	M
G	A	T	O	R
A	G	I	L	E
C	A	N	T	S

FAST FIVE

RIDDLER
1. Gravel -> Grave,
2. Duel -> Due,
3. Feel -> Fee,
4. Tool -> Too

STRIKE OUT

G	L	A	N	C	E	S	E	P	E	E
R	C	E	M	E	T	V	A	A	G	
A	E	R	A	T	E	D	T	Y	L	E
V	O	U	D	C						R
E	R	N	E	S	E	S	C	H	E	W
L	Y									S
Y	A	M	M	E	R	A	W	A	I	T
P	A	R	A	B	L	E	C	A	T	E
E		B		A		A		R		R
A	N	N	A	L	C	A	L	V	I	N
C		E	M	E	T		V		A	G
H	O	O	P	S		S	T	E	P	N

QUICK

		M	T	U		A	B	E		
		R	E	G	E	N	T		C	L
		M	L		T		U	L	T	
T	O	P	F	U		E	X	T	O	L
		G		R		E		O		E
S	C	O	U	R	E	D		A	T	O
		E				D		A		
E	R	O	D	E		U	P	G	R	A
		T		E		C		P		E
O	N	T	A	P	E		D	U	S	T
	O		C		B		N		E	
C	O	N	C	L	U	D	E		C	O
S		S		S		S		S		T

SUDOKU

8	3	9	7	5	2	6	4	1
4	6	5	8	9	1	2	3	7
7	1	2	6	3	4	9	8	5
3	9	7	1	2	6	4	5	8
6	5	4	3	7	8	1	9	2
1	2	8	5	4	9	7	6	3
5	7	1	9	6	3	8	2	4
9	4	3	2	8	7	5	1	6
2	8	6	4	1	5	3	7	9

MENSA PUZZLE
561: in all the others, the third digit is the difference between the first and second digits and the first digit is the difference between the third and fourth digits.

QUOTE UNCODE
With the greater part of rich people, the chief enjoyment of riches consists in the parade of riches.

ALPHA TRIANGLE
C, IC, Sic, Pies, Crisp, Script, Tricerps.

GO FIGURE
Easy
3 x 5 + 9 + 5 = 29
Medium
2 + 6 + 1 − 6 = 3
Hard
9 − 8 x 1 + 7 = 8

LOOP

KAKURO

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Look, ma is an actor!

Genelia Deshmukh and Riteish Deshmukh reunited on-screen after 10 years in 'Mister Mummy' which released in November 2022. But, it was 'Ved' where their chemistry stirred some magic again just like 'Tere Naal Love Ho Gaya' which was released in 2012. Riteish's directorial debut was a huge hit even at the box-office and it became the third highest grossing Marathi film of all times.

But Genelia revealed in an interview with News18 recently that their children didn't know that she's an actress. She said that her sons Rian and Rahyl have only watched 'Ved' yet and no other film of theirs. They didn't know that their mother is an actor. The children always thought that she was only their property, who is at home with them. But Genelia further revealed that their children were very proud of them after they watched Ved and went crazy about 'Ved Lavlay'.

—ETimes

Kudos team

Sandalwood actor Sharan appreciated director Soora's talent and actor Srinagar Kitty's sterling performance after watching the trailer of Gowli recently. The movie is scheduled for release on February 24.

"The making of the trailer deserves appreciation. All the credit must go to director Soora. His hard work and dedication are visible in each frame of the trailer. I am happy to see more and more quality in Kannada movies that are bringing name and fame not only in the state but at global level," said Sharan.

He appreciated Srinagar Kitty for playing a deglam role in the movie. "Kitty is not only a good actor but also a good human being. He has acted very well in this movie. The dialogues are laced with diction of Sirsi and surrounding areas in Uttara Kannada. If this movie becomes a success at the box office, more producers and directors will come forward to make these kinds of movies," Sharan said.

Pavana Gowda, who has acted in Kaliveera and Tootu Madike, plays the female lead in Gowli. "I play Girija in the movie. With this, I have realized my long-cherished dream of playing this type role. I waited around 10 years to have this opportunity. This movie has all the ingredients to entertain mass audiences. There is a notion that only boys watch mass movies but it is wrong," said Pavana Gowda.

—Y Maheswara Reddy

SANDALWOOD SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Divine power

Actor-cum-director Ashwin Vijayamurthy is busy with censor certification for his maiden movie Aura. The movie revolves around a youth's struggles to protect the forest nurtured by his grandfather.

"The movie is about a journey of a young priest who is unhappy with his life and wants to explore the other dimensions of life takes. The universe teaches him a lesson with money, nature and energy to serve God," said the director.

He said the story is a thriller and a work of fiction.

"After acting in the movie Nanagista, I worked as an associate creative director. I agreed to handle the megaphone for this movie because of its script written by Rohit who plays the lead in this movie," he said.

Rohith makes debut by playing the lead in this movie and Deepika Aradhya, is paired with him.

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